



Department of
Health

June 29, 2021

The Honorable Rusty Crowe, Chair
Senate Health and Welfare Committee
425 Rep. John Lewis Way N.
Suite 720 Cordell Hull Building
Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Senator Crowe:

As required by Tennessee Code Ann. §68-140-331(d)(3), we are pleased to submit the annual report on the EMT/AEMT limited pilot project. The Tennessee Department of Health – Office of Emergency Medical Services as well as the Emergency Medical Services Board are excited to see that this program has been successful in training EMT's and AEMT's in the local communities they serve, without causing a negative impact to the educational institutions in the respective communities.

As you well know, the impact of COVID-19 increased the shortage of EMTs and AEMTs currently in the workforce. While these training centers have not filled the void in EMS, they have successfully helped fill the gaps in our current situation. The recent expansion of the EMS Training Centers has allowed services to supplement the traditional secondary educational programs and played a significant role in helping services meet the emergent medical needs for their community. The Office of EMS remains committed to the EMS Training Centers and their continued success.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brandon Ward".

Brandon Ward, Director
Tennessee Department of Health
Office of Emergency Medical Services
665 Mainstream Dr., Suite 1700
Nashville, TN 37243

EMS Pilot Project Report

Public Chapter 998 - Ambulance Service EMT and AEMT Training Centers

1. The following Ambulance Services made application to teach an EMT class at their facilities. Pursuant to educational guidelines, a site visit was conducted, and these programs were granted authorization to teach EMT students by the EMS Board. Each of these programs had an initial cost of approximately \$20,000.00 for training supplies and materials.

Johnson County Rescue and EMS

Johnson County Rescue and EMS had 9 students enroll for EMT training and paid \$1,575.00 to the Office of EMS. All 9 students completed the program. Estimated cost for this class was \$3,225.00.

Ambulance Service of Bristol, Inc.

Ambulance Service of Bristol, Inc. had 5 students enroll for AEMT training and paid \$875.00 to the Office of EMS. All 5 students have completed the program. Estimated cost for this class was \$2,525.00.

Washington County – Johnson City EMS

WC-JC EMS had 8 students enroll for EMT training and paid \$1,225.00 to the Office of EMS. Seven (7) students attended the training and all 7 have completed the program. Estimated cost for this class was \$2,900.00.

Bristol Tennessee Fire Department

Bristol Fire Department reported 10 students enrolled for AEMT training and paid \$1,750.00 to the Office of EMS. This class has been delayed in completing the program due to COVID- 19. Estimated cost of this class was \$3,500.00

2. During the initial offering of this pilot program four Ambulance Services were authorized to establish EMT/AEMT training centers. The Office of EMS was able to conduct visits to each of the training sites and to review the training materials/program using existing resources. The cost for the Office of EMS to conduct the site visits and to review the training materials was approximately \$2,200.00 for staff time and mileage costs. The Office of EMS received \$5,425 (\$175 per student X 32 students) from the four Ambulance Services for the 32 students enrolled in the training program.
3. Following the initial offering of the pilot program, TCA 68-140-331 (2019) extended the pilot program to 15 training centers. Most of these programs were paused, due to COVID-19, and resumed applying for training center status in 2020. A total of 15 training centers submitted applications. Each training center received a site visit and were submitted to the EMS Board with a recommendation for approval by the Office of EMS. The following EMS Training Centers were approved by the EMS Board.

Priority Ambulance Service – Shelby County

Hamilton County EMS
Anderson County EMS
American Medical Response – Knox County
American Medical Response – Nashville
Community Healthcare – Shelby County
Montgomery County EMS
Bedford County EMS
Monroe County EMS
Bristol Fire and Rescue
Jefferson County EMS
Putnam County EMS
Carter County EMS
Medical Center EMS – Madison County
Sumner County EMS